SILVER BELL NEWS

BACON·BANJO·CO·INC.

Groton, Conn.

NO. 5 - VOL. 5.

B & D SILVER BELL BANJOS HAVE CHARMS

"MONTANA"

"MONTANA," a name to reckon with in Banjo History. This splendid Banjo Artist, who is booked two years ahead, has created a sensation by his wonderful work during the past few years in the largest theatres throughout the country. To see his wonderful act you can readily understand why he is called "The Cowboy Beau Brummel." He also has a standing European offer.

April 15, 1925.

"At this date while I am playing the home town of the Bacon Banjo, I feel that it is an opportune time to say that I never have owned a banjo as good and as perfect in every respect as the Bacon I have now. It is more powerful, richer in tone, more beautiful, finer in workmanship, and in every way the best I have ever played. After my close inspection of the Bacon factory, I can safely say it's no wonder the Bacon Banjo is the best in the world.

This testimonial is given after an experience of thirty years on as many different makes of Banjos."

Montana.

FRANK DI PRIMA

NEW YORK CITY

ENTHUSIASTICALLY endorses B & D Silver Bell Banjos. He is one of the finest Dance and Recording Banjo Artists in the country, and a popular member of Ray Miller's splendid Organization who have been playing at the Arcadia, one of the finest Dance Palaces in the country. This splendid Orchestra is widely known for its Brunswick Recording. Mr. Di Prima has this to say for his latest model B & D No. 6 Ne Plus Ultra Silver Bell Tenor Banjo which he lately received.

"It is positively the finest banjo I have ever played upon. The tone is marvelous and the adjustment perfect. I consider this instrument the highest achievement in the Banjo World. In appearance it is the last word in a beautiful and richly finished instrument. Its Tone Quality surpasses any that I have ever heard. In my estimation it is the best banjo on the market today. You are at liberty to use my letter in any way you see fit."

Frank Di Prima.

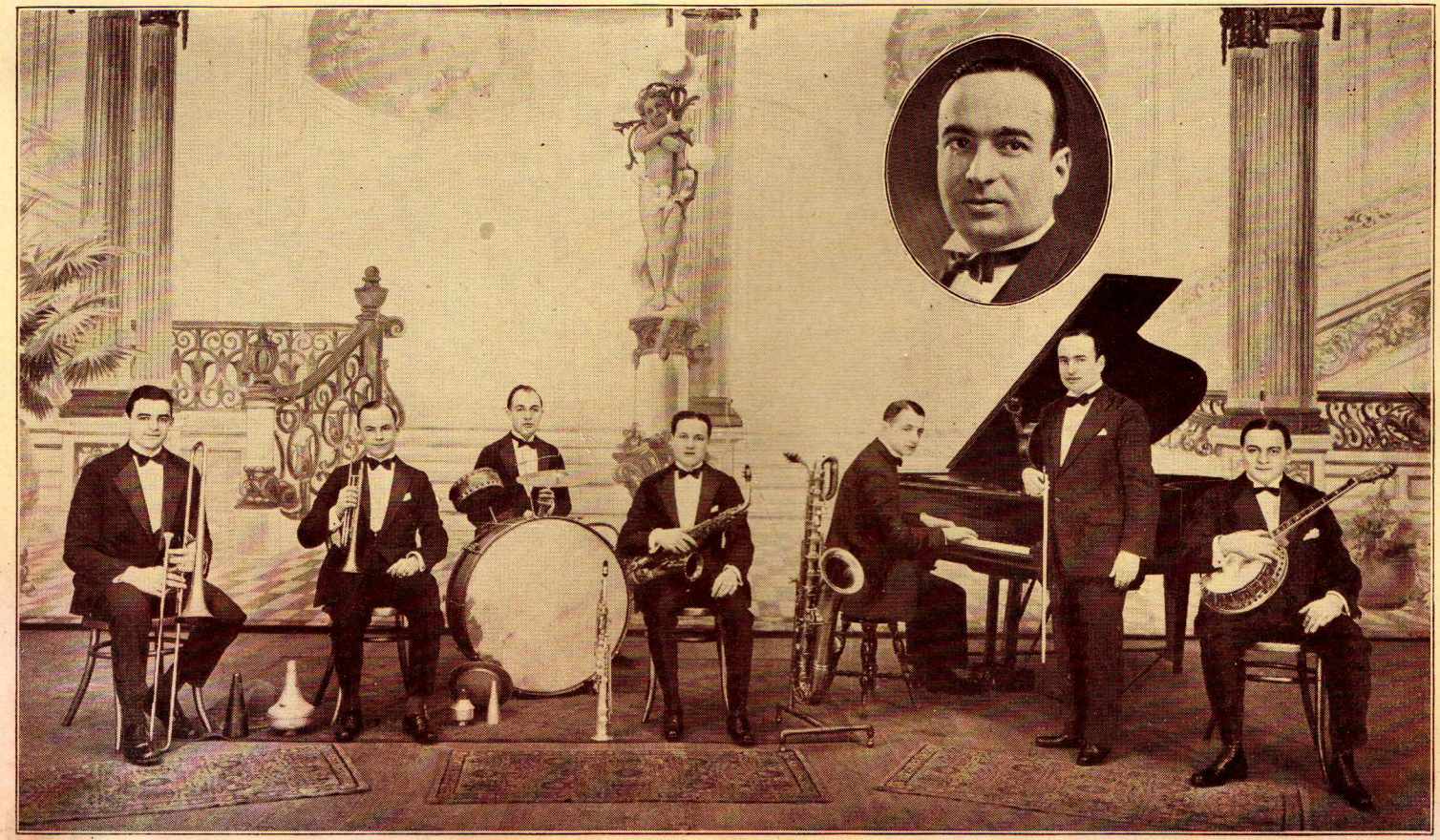
MAY SINGHI BREEN

NEW YORK CITY

WHO has not heard of May Singhi Breen, who for some time has been known as New York's leading Banjoiste. Her work as a Soloist and Orchestra Player has won the highest praise. Through her broadcasting with her B & D Special Silver Bell Banjo her fame is becoming National. She is also recognized as one of the leading authorities and writers for the Ukulele and Ukulele Banjo. What she says about the Silver Bell is quite interesting.

"I received the 'Silver Bell' Banjo and words cannot express how wonderful this instrument is. I started with a Bacon (in fact have owned four) and from time to time have tried various makes, but like the old story, 'The first love is the best love'. I know I will 'Bring home the Bacon' with my Silver Bell."

May Singhi Breen.



PHIL ROMANO AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Now Playing at Roseland Ball Room, 51st St. and Broadway NEW YORK CITY

PHIL ROMANO was with the Harry Yerkes American Five, one of the first American Orchestras that played at the Rectors Club, London and Ciros, Paris.

"I just want to tell you how pleased I am with the banjo Mr. Arthur Tipaldi (banjoist in my orchestra) recently purchased of you. It is the most wonderful banjo I have so far seen or heard. The boys in the orchestra join with me in wishing the B & D Silver Bell Banjos the greatest of success."

Thr[illegible]asons at the New Kenmore Hotel, Albany, N. Y.

HEBER BROTHERS SOCIETY ORCHESTRA

ADOLPH EISELT, *Banjoist*

ADOLPH EISELT, of the Heber Brothers Society Orchestra, of Columbus, Ohio, is an artist on both the Plectrum and Tenor Banjos. What he says should help others to decide why the Silver Bell Banjos are rapidly becoming the choice of the leading orchestra and professional players.

"Received my DeLuxe Silver Bell Banjo last Saturday, and I cannot begin to express myself in regard to the satisfaction it affords me in the unusual tone-power, construction and appearance. It is not as heavy or bunglesome as the ——— or ———, and as to workmanship, perfection of tone, ease of manipulation and beauty, it can't be beat in any way. It surely has my full and unqualified endorsement."

EDWIN SHELDON
SEATTLE, WASH.

EDWIN SHELDON, the leading soloist and teacher of Seattle Washington, and one of the best known teachers and players on the coast, is one of the latest admirers of the splendid qualities which can be easily demonstrated with the Silver Bell Banjos. He has had many attractive offers and inducements to use other makes but Mr. Sheldon knew when he tried the Silver Bell Banjo that this instrument was the one which met his critical demands in every way.

MINEAR BROTHERS
Silver Bell Entertainers
PITTSBURGH, PENN.

THESE two young men, who by the way have had the advantage of being under the tuition of one of the best Tenor Banjo Players in this country, M. J. Scheidlmeier, are making a hit with their playing in Pittsburgh and vicinity.

They are playing regularly over the radio and also in a cabaret. You can easily see from their animated expression they are all ready to put over a good number with their Silver Bell Banjos.

FRANK C. BRADBURY
HARTFORD, CONN.

Organizer and Director of Hartford Plectral Club
Banjo Soloist, American Guild, 1923, Washington, D. C.

ONE can not help but be enthused with the animation and energy of this young Artist and Teacher. Through hard work and great devotion to his chosen life's work, he has carried off many musical honors that only come to those of more mature years in the musical arena.

One of his latest efforts which will add considerable to his standing and musical ability in Hartford, was putting on a Benefit Concert in one of the largest theatres in Hartford a short time ago, in conjunction with one of the leading lady auxiliary Lodge Societies. The press notices of the affair were most complimentary and quite lengthy.

Mr. Bradbury's favorite instrument is the old reliable, the five-string banjo. He is, however, equally at home with the Mandolin, Guitar and Tenor Banjo, which instruments he also teaches. His verdict is:

"The Silver Bell Banjo is King of them all. There is a quality to all B & D Banjos that is banjoistic and brilliant with their easy action and superb workmanship. What more can a player want?"

EUGENE LUCATORTO
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Erwin White's Providence Biltmore Orchestra

IT DOES not take long for the trained musician to recognize the distinctive tone quality of the Silver Bell Banjo. Its resonance, carrying quality and volume are a constant inspiration to the player whose work today brings him in close touch with the very best musicians.

Mr. Lucatorto, previous to his present engagement, had been playing at Broadway, New York, for five years. He had been a member of one of Paul Whiteman's second teams and also banjoist of the Hazy Natzy Orchestra. He had played with the Commodore Hotel Orchestra two years. He is also a very fine Cellist. About his new No. 6 Ne Plus Ultra Silver Bell Tenor Banjo, he writes:

"I have been playing Tenor Banjos ever since the instrument has been used in the dance orchestra and have used different styles and makes but the B & D Ne Plus Ultra Style No. 6 is certainly superior to any other that I have ever used."

Keen is the top notch Orchestra Leader to choose as members of his organization only those who can meet the rigid test that is necessary for his requirements.

TOLEDO BANJO ORCHESTRA

Directed by

A. R CUMMINGS

THIS splendid Banjo Orchestra shows what can be done by a sales manager who is thoroughly interested in the instruments, and the credit for these results can be given to Mr. A. R. Cummings, Manager of the Musical Merchandise Department of the Grinnell Store. Mr. Cummings is a fine musician and teacher on the instruments and has developed a wonderful faculty of interesting young people in the possibilities of the banjo. These young players are very ambitious, and, no doubt, some of them will be headliners later.

Youth has fancies and today the compensation of a good Banjoist in Orchestra work is such that those who are willing to strive for it will find that it will well repay them for the time spent in preparation. One important thing which is very necessary, the better the instrument, the better the result. There is no better way than to harmonize yourself or the Orchestra with a Silver Bell Banjo.

GEORGE BUTTKUS

SAM HEIMAN'S ST. PAUL HOTEL ORCHESTRA is the best known Orchestra in the Northwest. They have lately had an extended engagement in Omaha, Nebraska.

Mr. George Buttkus, the Banjoist of this splendid organization, is a proud owner of a No. 3 Gold, B & D Silver Bell Tenor Banjo. He wrote us as follows concerning his choice:—

"After a severe test of various makes, I find the B & D Silver Bell Banjo superior in every way."

The following letters from prominent musicians and teachers, were sent in by our distributors, W. J. Dyer & Bro.

MABEL C. HAUGE
Instructor of Instrumental Music
SOUTH ST. PAUL, MINN.

"This is to certify that I am the owner of a Bacon Banjo which has given me perfect service in my work and will highly recommend it to anyone desiring an instrument of lasting quality."

MR. NED COOK is prominently identified with the string instruments and sends the following:

"I have heard many banjos but I recommend the Bacon Banjo over them all and am more than satisfied with the one which I own. The whole Bacon line, from the least expensive to most expensive, is high class."

LAURA MASON CRISP
KANSAS CITY, MO.

LAURA MASON CRISP, a SILVER BELL ENTHUSIAST, is an accomplished musician whose artistic playing and singing has been received with the greatest pleasure by thousands of music lovers of Kansas City and vicinity. In a recent letter she writes:

"I want to thank you for sending me such a beautiful banjo and its tone quality far exceeds my expectations. The B & D Super is certainly the most musical banjo I have ever had, and in my songs the chords ring out loud and clear. One of its best features is that it plays so easy and meets the demands of the most exacting players. I will certainly take pleasure in demonstrating the Superiority of the B & D Super Banjos."

THE COAST has turned out many prominent Banjo Orchestra Players and among them is Charles E. Links of Seattle, Washington.

He has a Style "Al" B & D Super Banjo. What he says will be a help to those desiring to get the best banjo manufactured.

"My B & D Super Banjo has secured for me many engagements, especially in tryouts with players using other makes. Have been offered special engagements if I would trade in my Bacon, but I have told them my Bacon Jo is the only instrument made and its wonderful tone is not only musical but blends perfectly with the Orchestra and fills any size hall."

CHARLES E. LINKS
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The B & D SILVER BELL BANJOS COMBINE LOOKS AS WELL AS TONE—WHY NOT GET BOTH?

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS WE DID NOT WRITE. THEY ARE DIFFERENT, BUT EXPRESS THE OPINION OF ARTISTS WHO KNOW

"It plays so easy and the carrying power is wonderful, and yet it has a fine quality of tone—a rare combination. I want to congratulate you on producing what I sincerely believe to be the best instrument of its kind in the world."

"I want everyone to know that the Bacon Banjo is the best Banjo that can be purchased. This may sound a trifle too optimistic, but it is a profound fact."

R. J. AMENTA
HARTFORD, CONN.

LORNE H. HITCHINS, with Dan Macauly and his winter Garden Orchestra, is another enthusiast over "Silver Bell" Banjos. His unsolicited testimonial follows:

"I am the owner of two of your banjos,—a 'Silver Bell' Tenor and a 'Silver Bell' Plectrum. In a test with my last two they have proved far superior. The rich, true and powerful tone of the Plectrum [illegible], and the clear ringing tone of the Tenor, make them ideal for orchestra and solo work. The workmanship is especially fine. They are truly the best banjos I have played on."

LORNE H. HITCHINS
LONDON, ONT., CANADA

GUISEPPE PETTINE
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

WE CONSIDERED it a great compliment to be honored by Guiseppe Pettine, the nationally known virtuoso, author and writer, to make for him a mandolin-banjo. We are pleased to show a picture of this well-known artist. In a letter received he writes as follows:

"Was glad to hear of the great progress of your Company, but not surprised for when Mr. Bacon was in Providence he showed me a line of banjos and mandolins that were as good as I have ever seen. I have made up my mind to use the mandolin-banjo in my Dance Orchestra and play it myself."

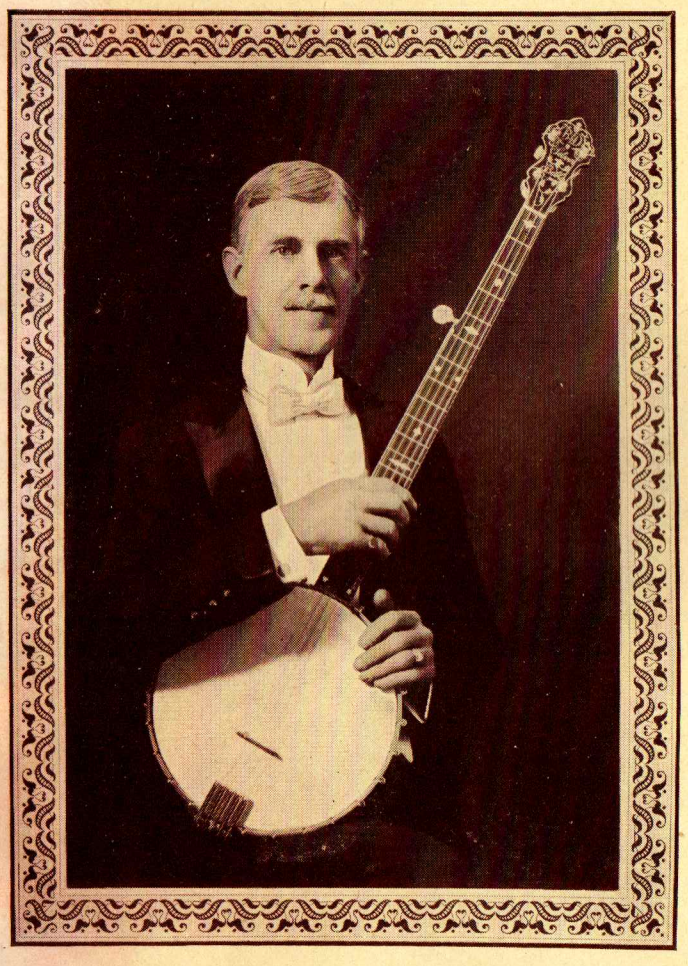
We might say further that Guiseppe Pettine's Orchestra has been famous for a number of years in the East.

CHARLES R. SHIBLEY has been for a long time identified with the Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar interests of Minneapolis and is considered an authority on these instruments. In a letter received, he writes:

"I have laid aside my ———— banjo entirely and am certainly getting more attached to my Silver Bell. I carry it down to the School and Home every day. Have just sold two of my pupils Bacon Banjos and another one who is very much interested will, no doubt, own one of these splendid instruments in the near future."

CHARLES R. SHIBLEY
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Although the picture shows Mr. Shibley with his Silver Bell Tenor Banjo which he uses in Orchestra and Solo playing, the regular five-string Silver Bell Banjo is his favorite.



FRANK S. MORROW
HARRISBURG, PENN.

FRANK S. MORROW of Harrisburg, Pa., is a name which will be recognized by those who have been identified with Banjo interests for some time.

Mr. Morrow is an Artist on the five-string regular banjo and has appeared before audiences in the leading cities in the state of Pennsylvania.

Bell ano[illegible] of his new B & D Silver Bell Banjo he has not only been inspired to *pleasing* *more t[illegible]* success, but he is so highly pleased with his new instrument that he writes:

"The banjo is my hobby, and I would not part with this one at any price if I could not get another."

RUSSELL MANUEL

RUSSELL MANUEL while in Wichita, Kansas, a few years ago was prominent identified with the musical interests of that city, playing and teaching the Ma lin, Banjo and Guitar and his Solo work on these instruments received the highest praise. Later he was with two well-known Orchestras of the south and west. Ma Fink's Little Club Orchestra of New Orleans, La., and last season with Don Warner Syncopators of Pueblo, Col., which toured Oklahoma and Texas.

Mr. Manuel is now in vaudeville, scoring splendidly with his style No. 6 B Ne Plus Ultra, Silver Bell Tenor Banjo. Besides his Mandolin and Guitar wor also a wonderful rope artist. One of his press notices reads:

"Manuel's banjo manipulations are nothing short of wonderful. to take ity to make one banjo sound like two is marvellous. Monday nigh piece. Society Night with Russell Manuel entertaining the upper strata wi Banjo and Guitar renditions."

Just received word as we go to press that he has joined the Art Landry (Victor Recording) Orchestra.

BOB MARVIN

ST. LOUIS, MO.

One of the well known middle west Banjo Orchestra Players

STARTING in his work when banjos were a novelty in dance orchestras, Mr. Marvin rapidly made a name for himself and was a member of several of the best known traveling Orchestras. He is now a member of Joe Gill's Orchestra playing at the New Chase Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.

With his style No. 6 Silver Bell Ne Plus Ultra, he is getting a renewed inspiration which a Silver Bell Banjo is sure to bring out. He writes:

"I now have had my new De Luxe No. 6 special constructed Bacon Silver Bell about six months and during that time have given it the 'acid' test. Its pleasing tone and immense volume has caused considerable comment and I am more than pleased with the instrument in every way.

"I cannot speak too highly of the service given by your factory in making the special instrument. To test one of these instruments will surely convince any Professional or Amateur Banjoist of the superior quality of the Bacon Silver Bell Banjos."

JOHN G. AMENDT
NEW YORK CITY

CHAS. STRICKLAND has scored an enviable reputation in Orchestra work and during the past few years has appeared at a number of the best known places in New York, Philadelphia, Atlantic City and other cities with a record of from one to three return engagements at many of them.

This leads up to the selection of John G. Amendt as Banjoist of this splendid Orchestra and his choice of a style No. 6 Ne Plus Ultra Silver Bell Tenor Banjo, as an instrument that meets his full requirements. What he says should interest every Banjoist:

"After having used practically every make of banjo during the past fifteen years (being virtually a pioneer in the dance field in New York City and the Middle West), I have become firmly convinced that the Bacon Banjo which I am now using at the Palais D'Or, 48th St. and Broadway, is absolutely the last word in instrument manufacture from every point of view. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you upon the production of such a masterpiece.

"I can assure you that your instrument makes my work a great pleasure, and I consider myself fortunate in having the extreme privilege of using it. Incidentally, beside the fact that it is one of the handsomest Banjos ever made, the tonal quality is magnificent, and the ease of playing it is all that could possibly be desired."

McGRATH BROS.

BOSTON, MASS.

Banjoists Extraordinary and Novelty Entertainers

AS SOLOISTS AND ENTERTAINERS, we have no hesitation in saying that these splendid Artists have appeared before a larger number of people than any others before the public today. They have appeared on the Keith Circuit in all parts of the country and for a number of seasons have been heading their own Company on the leading Lyceum and Chautauqua Circuits.

With their wide experience extending over many years, we considered it the highest compliment when they came to us for Banjos. That these instruments have met their approval is attested to in the letter they have written:

"The Bacon Banjos are certainly the last word in workmanship, finish and tone. We wish you to know how much we enjoyed Mr. Bacon playing Saturday at the Oliver Ditson Store, and sorry we missed him over the Radio."

T. D. BROCKMEYER

Tenor Banjoist

DECK'S DIXIE ORCHESTRA—ST. LOUIS, MO.

FOREST PARK HIGHLANDS AND CASTLE DANCE ACADEMY

TED BROCKMEYER, as he is familiarly known, is one of the leading Tenor Banjo Players of St. Louis, Mo. Besides his success as a player, in conjunction with h father, A. C. Brockmeyer, they have been the means of sel ing a large number of I Silver Bell Banjos in St. Louis and vincinity. Some of the purchasers being Marvin, Wayne Jacobson, Bob Cummings, Ray Curran, Gerard Johnson, Fred K Charlie Bill, Gap Crivello, and many others.

T. D. Brockmeyer finds that the B & D Silver Bell Banjos *"are the best professional Banjos ever made for first class orchestra and dance work."*

STEPHEN ST. JOHN, of Schenectady, New York, is a large purchaser of Bacon Banjos. In a letter at hand, he says:

"I am sending you, under separate cover, a newspaper showing a picture of my Y. M. C. A. Serenaders which is a gathering consisting of my advanced pupils, assisted by piano, harp and drums.

"I have also a beginners' gathering of about fifty, which will soon join in with those in the picture, making a plectrum orchestra of over one hundred players. Please do all you can to get the three Tenors here this week."

THE MELODY GIRLS
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

This Orchestra is composed entirely of girls, and they have made a distinct hit in musical affairs in Schenectady and vicinity, being very much in demand for dances and concerts.

Kittie Haydn Meinhold is the Pianist-Director. Catherine L. O'Brien is the Banjo player of the organization. Miss O'Brien had Mr. Stephen St. John for her instructor. She says:

"The clear brilliant tones of my Bacon Silver Bell have done a great deal in making the Melody Girls a success."

JOHN MARTELL
NEW YORK, N. Y.

A DISTINGUISHED Tenor Banjo Soloist, whose work easily places him in the front rank of players in New York City.

Not only is he in demand at many leading society functions but he is very popular as a teacher among the "400".

When an Artist of Mr. Martell's caliber chooses the Silver Bell Banjo to convey his musical message, it means that in his judgment, after putting the banjo to every test, it was not found wanting.

MILTON PROTHEROE
SCRANTON, PENN.

SILVER BELL BANJOS are enthusiastically endorsed by Milton Protheroe. As a Soloist he takes high rank with his Orchestra playing, broadcasting and entertaining with that splendid organization, "The Four Rounders" his various accomplishments have made a steady demand for his services.

Mr. Protheroe is also a violin soloist, having studied that instrument seven years before taking up the banjo.

MERRY GARDEN ORCHESTRA

CHICAGO, ILL.

THE above photograph shows the North Side Merry Garden Orchestra, one of the leading organizations of Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Charles Rothermel, the banjoist of this splendid orchestra, is shown with his two gold Silver Bell Tenor and Plectrum instruments.

His extended engagement with this orchestra has been a delight to music lovers. As a Soloist, he is one of the best in the country and was featured at the 24th Annual Convention of the American Guild of the B. M. & G. held in Toledo, Ohio, May 24th-28th.

His opinion is well worth the serious attention of all Banjoists.

"The Bacon Silver Bell Tenor Banjo is the most nearly perfect instrument I have ever had the pleasure of playing. It has a marvelous tone, more than sufficient volume and greatest of all is remarkably easy to play. I would not consider playing a job on any other banjo now that I know what can be done on a B & D Silver Bell Banjo."

Thousands of orchestras have been formed during the past few years and as the Banjo with its splendid rythm is one of the most important instruments, many positions have become available for players in this particular instrument.

There is still an unfilled demand for Banjoists with the proper equipment, adequate training and an instrument built to meet the demands of the modern orchestra. There is no question of your success with the B & D Silver Bell Banjo.

There is no question of your success with the B & D Silver Bell Banjo.

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